

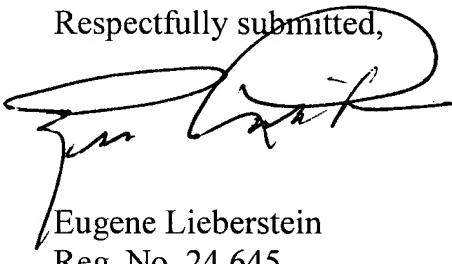
## REMARKS

This amendment is being submitted to supplement the amendment filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on January 13, 2003 so that certain typographical errors can be corrected.

It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is being entered by way of this supplemental amendment. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this supplemental amendment be entered.

Accordingly, consideration and allowance of claims 23-29 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



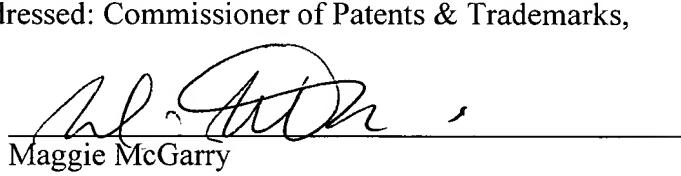
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## **MAILING CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on April 8, 2003.

4/08/03  
Date

  
Maggie McGarry

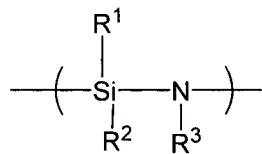
**Amended New Claims**

**23. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film comprising: a step in which a coated film is formed of a photosensitive polysilazane composition comprising a polysilazane and a photoacid generator, a step in which said coated film is exposed to light in a pattern, a step in which the exposed portion of said coated film is dissolved off, and a step in which the patterned polysilazane film formed as a result of said dissolving off is allowed to stand in an ambient atmosphere or baked to convert it to a silica-based ceramic coating, wherein said polysilazane is

a polysilazane having a number-average molecular weight of between 100 to 50,000, that mainly contains the skeleton represented with the following general formula (I), or a modification product thereof containing such polysilazane, or

a polysilazane having a number-average molecular weight of between 100 to 100,000, that mainly contains the skeleton represented with the following general formula (II), and wherein

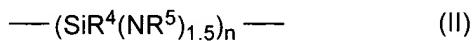
said photoacid generator is at least one type of compound selected from the group consisting of a peroxide, a naphthoquinone diazidosulfonate ester and a nitrobenzyl ester:



general formula (I):

wherein, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> respectively and independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a group other than these groups in which the portion bonded directly to silicon or nitrogen is carbon, an alkylsilyl group, an alkylamino group or an alkoxy group;

general formula (II):



wherein, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> respectively represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, a group other than these groups in which the portion bonded directly to silicon or nitrogen is carbon, an alkylsilyl group, an alkylamino group or an alkoxy group, and n is an arbitrary integer.

**24. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [24] 23, wherein said polysilazane is a polyorganosiloxazane having a number-average molecular weight of between 300 to 100,000 that contains, as its main repeating unit, -(RSiN<sub>3</sub>)-, -(RSiN<sub>2</sub>O)-, -(RSiNO<sub>2</sub>)- and -(RSiO<sub>3</sub>)- in which R is an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group, and alkylamino group or an alkylsilyl group.

**25. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [1] 23, wherein said peroxide is t-butyl peroxybenzoate, 3,3',4,4'-tetra(t-butylperoxycarbonyl) benzophenone or  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -bis(t-butylperoxy)diisopropylbenzene.

**26. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [24] 23, wherein said photoacid generator further contains an sensitizing dye.

**27. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [27] 26, wherein said sensitizing dye is selected from coumarin, [ketocoumarin] ~~\*~~ ketocoumarin and their derivatives and thiopyrylium salts.

**28. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [24] 23, wherein said photosensitive polysilazane composition further contains an oxidation catalyst. ~~\*~~

**29. (Amended)** A method of forming a patterned insulating film according to claim [29] 28, wherein said oxidation catalyst is palladium propionate. ~~\*~~